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Warriors Tie For Lead With 4th Win in Row

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Lack of both height and experience playing together has not kept Wakefield High School's basketball team from a first-place tie in the Northern Virginia Group 1-A League.

The unbeaten Warriors won their fourth game, upending Woodson, 51-42, at Wakefield last night. They now share the lead with Washington-Lee, George Washington and Hammond as league play stops for the holidays.

Similar to Wakefield's football team, which won the Northern Virginia championship after a slow start, the Warriors are a mixture of last year's Wakefield and Hoffman-Boston players. They're new to each other, and the ball gets thrown away a lot, but the potential is there.

Height Is Problem

Height is the real problem. Only 6-foot-3 Harvey Crittenden tops 6-1, and five of the top eight players are less than 6 foot.

The Warriors had little trouble outrebounding Woodson, but against a giant-sized team such as Washington-Lee, they could have a real problem. Woodson averages 6-3.

Depth, the Warriors' strong suit, made the difference last night. Six Warriors scored between seven and 11 points to balance the 22 points of Gabe Oliverio, the Cavaliers' fine shooter.

Last-Quarter Surge

Wakefield, which never trailed after the middle of the second quarter, gradually pulled away on the shooting of Marvin Jordan, Crittenden and Clayton Powell.

The 5-foot-11 Jordan, who led the Warriors with 11 points, scored six in the last-quarter surge, and grabbed eight rebounds in the second half.

Woodson				Wakefield			
G	F	T		G	F	T	
1	1	3	Strong	3	2	8	Roop
8	6	22	G. Oliverio	0	1	1	Griffin
1	2	4	D. Oliverio	1	0	2	Duehring
1	0	2	J. Martin	2	3		Crittenden
1	1	3	Marsden	4	3	1	Jordan
2	0	4	Owens	2	3		Powell
2	0	4	Celec	2	3		Burton
0	0	0	Willison	1	6		Gant
16	10	42	Totals	15	21	5	Totals

Halftime: Wakefield, 19-18.



Carlton Burton of Wakefield drives in for a basket during the second quarter at Wakefield last night despite the defensive efforts of John Martin (45) and Dave Oliverio (21) of Woodson. Wakefield won, 51-42, to tie for the league lead.—Photo by Pete Schmick.